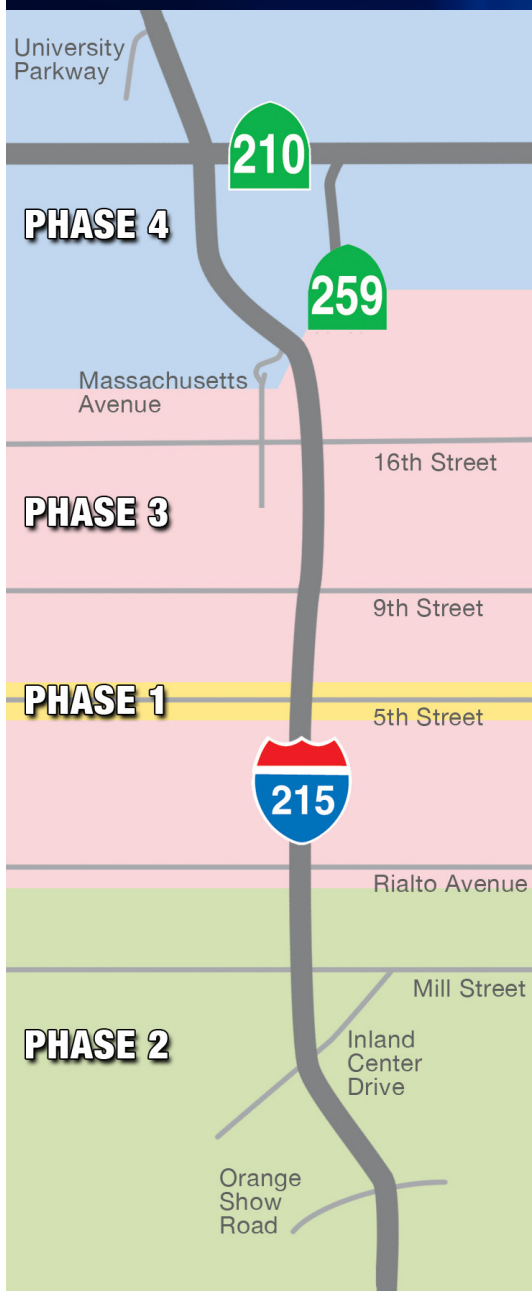




CRUISIN' THROUGH CONSTRUCTION

Interstate 215 Widening Project, San Bernardino

June 2010, Issue 41



New Fifth Street Off-Ramps: Construction Shortened by Seven Months

On June 8, SANBAG and Caltrans held a public information meeting to inform area residents and business owners of plans to expedite construction on work between Rialto and Massachusetts avenues by approximately seven months! Residents, business owners, project experts and community outreach liaisons gathered at the Feldheim Library to discuss new construction and detour plans for the closure of the southbound 5th Street off-ramp.

The southbound 5th Street off-ramp is now closed for approximately eight months in order for the new on-ramps and off-ramps to be constructed directly on the new 5th Street bridge. The new off-ramps are expected to open Spring 2011. As a detour, drivers can

exit 3rd Street, turn left, turn left on H Street, and head north toward 5th Street.

SANBAG and Caltrans would like to thank all of the attendees of the public information meeting. For information regarding the ramp closure and to view a map of the detour plan, go to www.sanbag.ca.gov or call 1-877-215-NEWS to speak to an I-215 Widening Project community outreach liaison.



Community members learn more about how the closure of the southbound 5th Street ramp will expedite the project by seven months.

I-215 Milestone: Major Section of Work Completed Next Month!

July marks a major milestone for the I-215 Widening Project - after two and a half years of construction, the new and improved I-215 between Orange Show Road and Rialto Avenue will be complete next month!

Driving through Orange Show Road to Rialto Avenue, most people note the wallscape paying homage to the nostalgia of our San Bernardino region - retaining walls etched in arrowheads, mountains and trains. Other efforts include rockscaping, the replanting of the city's iconic palm trees, and a complete overhaul of the drainage system in this area.

The goal of each phase of the I-215 Widening Project is to improve the overall functionality of San Bernardino's main transportation artery. Improving access and enhancing safety through Orange Show Road and Rialto Avenue was achieved by the addition of two new freeway lanes and reconstruction and reconfiguration of the following bridges: Mill Street, Inland Center Drive, Orange Show Road, Warm Creek and Lytle Creek.

Caltrans and SANBAG appreciate your patience with this phase during the past few years. Public support has been tremendous - thank you so much!

Long Term and Permanent Closures



As construction continues on I-215, please note the following closures:

Southbound I-215 5th Street Off-Ramp – Closed starting June 21, 2010 while crews construct the new ramps that connect directly to the 5th Street bridge. New ramps are expected to open Spring 2011.

4th Street On-Ramps – Eliminated and will be replaced with ramps directly on the 5th Street bridge.

9th Street Bridge – Closed to drivers and pedestrians until late 2010.

Southbound I-215 Baseline Avenue Off-Ramp – Closed until the new ramps are constructed in Fall 2013.

Northbound Highland Avenue Off-Ramp – Closed permanently and reconfigured with access to Highland Avenue via a collector road.

Northbound Highland Avenue On-Ramp – Closed long-term while crews construct the collector road.

27th Street/Mt. Vernon Avenue Southbound On-Ramp and Northbound Off-Ramp – Closed starting April 2 for approximately two years when new bridge is complete.

Southbound I-215 to Eastbound SR-210 Connector – Closed until late July.

2nd Street Reopens; I-215/SR-210 Connector to Open in July

Second Street is now open to drivers! After an eight week closure between G Street and I Street, 2nd Street was reopened June 21. The closure was necessary to improve the drainage system before crews start widening efforts in the area.

During the 2nd Street closure, crews also worked on a new frontage road extending from the southbound I-215 3rd Street off-ramp to 2nd Street. I Street, which used to serve as the collector road for the southbound I-215 3rd Street off-ramp, will become a cul-de-sac.

Separately, the southbound I-215 to eastbound SR-210 connector is scheduled to open in late July. The connector has been closed for drainage work necessary to move forward with building new connectors. Ultimately, work in this phase of the project will include connector ramps that will link eastbound SR-210 to southbound I-215 and northbound I-215 to westbound SR-210.

SANBAG and Caltrans would like to thank commuters for their patience and flexibility during this project.



Crews completed work at 2nd Street and reopened it to drivers in June.

For travel information dial:
511

Or visit:
www.IE511.org



Harvest Market: A Downtown Success! SANBAG and Caltrans Connect With the Community at Court Street Square

The Harvest Market is back! In addition to getting fresh fruits and vegetables, handmade crafts, and delicious lunches, residents, business owners, and city employees can learn more about the I-215 Widening Project at our informational booth. Located at Court Street Square - next to City Hall at Court Street and E Street - the Harvest Market is held each Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. through October.



Using the project pull-up map, a Harvest Market attendee talks through the new configuration of I-215 with a project liaison.

Be sure to stop by our I-215 booth - we'll be there once every month - to view what the finished I-215 will look like by checking out our pull-up map and visual boards. Project liaisons will be on-hand to answer questions, discuss construction plans, and listen to feedback regarding the I-215 Widening Project. Interested in receiving weekly project updates and commuter alerts? Come to Court Street and provide us with an email address - we'll add your information to the I-215 Widening Project

database and every Friday you'll receive I-215 information.

In addition to staffing booths and working community events, SANBAG and Caltrans conduct presentations at local service organization meetings and meet with businesses. To schedule a presentation or to learn more about the I-215 Widening Project, please call the helpline at 1-877-215-NEWS or follow us on Twitter @215NEWS.

Local Businesses Open During Construction

Achamak Gas and Market - 605 N. H Street
Located on H Street near the 5th Street bridge, this gas station offers good prices any time of day. Open: 24 hours (909) 885-7501

Shandin Hills Golf Course - 3380 Little Mountain Drive
Summer Sizzler Promotions are great for golfers while beautiful banquet rooms are home to many weddings and special events each year. Open: Every day 5 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. (909) 886-0669 www.shandinhillsgolf.com

Fairview Ford - 292 N. G Street
Fully equipped car center with body shop, rental cars, vehicle services, parts, and new and pre-owned vehicles. Open: Hours vary by department, see Web site for details (909) 884-9261 www.fairviewford.com

Big Z Auto - 274 N. I Street
Full-service towing, transport, and storage for property owners, managers, body shops, dealerships and mechanics. Ask about FREE estimates! Open: 24 hours (909) 889-9655 www.bigzauto.com



The I-215 Widening Project is a partnership among San Bernardino Associated Governments, the California Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration and the City of San Bernardino.

Project Questions?

For questions or to request a presentation about the widening of Interstate 215, call the toll-free helpline, **1-877-215-NEWS**.

The I-215 Widening Project is now on Twitter. Follow us @215NEWS.

